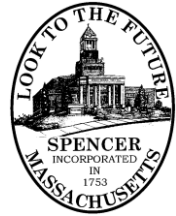


Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen



Date: Monday, April 9, 2012
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA
Present: Chairman Berthiaume, Vice Chair Pepe, Clerk Woodbury, Members Durant & Fritze, Town Administrator Gaudette, Administrative Assistant Torti

At 6:05 p.m. Chairman Berthiaume called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Business Meeting of March 26, 2012 and the Roving Meeting of March 24, 2012 (Woodbury/Fritze) passed 4/0 with Mr. Durant abstaining.

Citizen Input: none

Communications:

Mr. Berthiaume noted that the United Methodist Church has asked the Town to make repairs to the fence surrounding the rear parking lot as per the agreement when the Town purchased the land. The Board agreed to have the repairs reviewed and will either have the Highway Department repair the fence or put it on the warrant for Fall Town Meeting.

Mr. Berthiaume next expressed the Board's sympathies to the families of four community members who had passed away: Winnie Pepe, mother of Selectman Tony Pepe; Roger Gaucher, brother-in-law to Assistant Town Clerk Karen Gaucher; Myles McDonough, founder of FLEXcon; and Seth Fancher, former Chairman of the Board whose passing one year ago was marked by Mr. Berthiaume.

Mr. Berthiaume informed all present that the DPHS Cheerleaders had won not only their division in the State Championships, but also for the New England Region, and had gone on to the Nationals in Florida at which they won for their division. The Board will be making a presentation to the Cheerleading Squad at the Annual Town Meeting.

Mr. Berthiaume next read a letter from the Personnel Board in which they responded to comments made by Sewer Commission Frank White at a previous Selectmen's Meeting.

New Business:

- a) Action Item: Vote on request for a Parade Permit for the Spencer Brookfield Little League (April 21st 11:00 a.m.). Scott Simons was present to represent the league. He informed the Board that the league had been in existence for nearly sixty years.

A motion to approve the request for a Parade Permit for the Spencer Brookfield Little League on April 21st at 11:00 a.m. (Fritze/Woodbury) passed 5/0.

- b) Action Item: vote on application for a Junk Dealer's License for William Ekleberry, Jr.

A motion to approve the request for a Junk Dealer's License for William Ekleberry, Jr. (Pepe/Woodbury) passed 5/0.

- c) Action Item: vote on application for a Common Victualler License for JIA Buffet. Ms. Torti informed the Board that the paperwork was in order with the exception of a certificate of insurance.

A motion to approve the request for a Common Victualler License pending the receipt of a certificate of insurance (Woodbury/Fritze) passed 5/0.

- d) Action Item: vote on application for a Common Victualler License for Mama's Roadhouse.

A motion to approve the request for a Common Victualler License (Woodbury/Pepe) passed 5/0.

- e) Town Administrator Evaluation – Discuss Process and Distribute Evaluation Forms. Mr. Berthiaume handed out the forms to the Board and asked the members to forward the completed forms to him. He explained the scoring process and noted that when the evaluations are submitted the Chair, Vice Chair and Town Administrator would review and tally the evaluations. The final evaluation will then be done publically at the April 23rd Business Meeting.

Old Business:

- a) Meritorious Award: Ballot Collection from Selectmen. Mr. Berthiaume collected the ballots from the Board, reviewed them to ensure there was not a tie, and turned them over to Ms. Torti for final processing. The Meritorious Service Award will be presented at Town Meeting.

Town Administrator's Report:

- a) Action Item: Vote to approve Memorandums of Agreement with Town Collective Bargaining Units. Mr. Gaudette summarized the events/issues leading to this MOA, noting that Town employees had stepped up to the plate to help the Town meet the current economic challenges. The MOA's before the Board will increase co-payments for health insurance, but prevent a 3.5% increase in premium costs to the Town.

A motion to enter into the Memorandum of Agreement with Local 170 Utilities & Facilities Unit (Woodbury/Pepe) passed 4/0 with Mr. Fritze abstaining.

A motion to enter into the Memorandum of Agreement with Local 170 Town Hall Unit (Woodbury/Pepe) passed 5/0.

A motion to enter into the Memorandum of Agreement with Local 175A Dispatchers (Woodbury/Pepe) passed 5/0.

A motion to enter into the memorandum of Agreement with Local 175 Police (Woodbury/Pepe) passed 5/0.

Mr. Berthiaume and the Board thanked the Town Administrator and Town Employees for working with the Board and stepping up to meet the challenges of these difficult economic times.

- b) Action Item: Vote to accept renewal rates for MIIA Health Benefits.

A motion to accept the renewal rates for MIIA Health Benefits for the period from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 (Pepe/Woodbury) passed 5/0.

- c) FY2013 Budget Discussion. Mr. Gaudette reviewed the finalized budget with the Board. He also explained the budget process noting that meetings had been held with Department Heads, with the SEBRSD Committee, with Bay Path Vocational High School and the Finance Committee. The Town Moderator and the Town Administrator will be appearing on SCA for Question Time and Mr. Gaudette informed the public that questions could also be directed to him by email or by

contacting the Town Administrator's Office. Mr. Durant thanked Mr. Gaudette and told him that he and Dr. Namin had done a great job working together. Mr. Berthiaume noted that the Town had lost nearly \$1.9 million in revenues in the past few years and that a big part of being able to deal with this cut had been due to the willingness of the Town employees to step up to the plate.

- d) Action Item: Vote to Set & Close the Annual Town Meeting Warrant (May 3, 2012). Mr. Berthiaume asked the Board to review the articles on the warrant and to indicate which articles they wished to hold back for discussion. The Board did not request any holds.

A motion to approve the warrant for Annual Town Meeting to be held May 3, 2012 in its entirety (Pepe/Woodbury) passed 5/0.

A motion to close the warrant (Durant/Pepe) passed 5/0.

- e) Action Item: Vote to authorize Administrator as Signatory for CIC Grant. The Town Administrator asked the Board to authorize him as signatory for a \$310k grant for stormwater management.

A motion to authorize the Town Administrator as Signatory for the CIC Grant (Woodbury/Pepe) passed 5/0.

Board Liaison Reports: Mr. Berthiaume informed the Board that the SEBRSD Building Committee would be meeting with the architect at their next meeting.

Citizen Input: none

Board Member and Staff Comments: Mr. Pepe noted that he attended the second presentation of the School's Strategic Planning session and received very good information and enjoyed having the opportunity to provide input. Mr. Berthiaume informed the Board that the Town Administrator had received several calls from East Brookfield Selectmen regarding concerns about the MOU for Emergency Shelter. He suggested that the two Boards of Selectmen arrange to meet and discuss this together. Mr. Pepe asked if a discussion on a bylaw for a Safe Zone could be placed on an upcoming agenda. Mr. Berthiaume indicated that a memorial bench planned for Seth Fancher would need to come from the State and that Mr. Durant had been instrumental in obtaining the needed permissions and information related to this project.

A motion to adjourn (Pepe/Woodbury) passed 5/0. The meeting concluded at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura J. Torti
Administrative Assistant

_____ Chairman

_____ Vice Chairman

_____ Clerk

_____ Member

_____ Member

_____ Date